

F: SPEECHES dci

X: ERIE COUNTY BAR ASSOC

20 April 1959

Kirk:

I am returning herewith the draft of the speech as well as the classified document.

Regarding the resident agent's report, I think it would be a good idea if the Director would make a motor trip to Niagara Falls after his midday speech at Buffalo, (it is only 36 miles from Buffalo) and then if he could return to the Saturn Club and talk that evening, he certainly would max the situation. His talk could be on the Soviet economic threat.

On page 1 of your draft, Kirk, I think Niagara University should be included. Bill Donovan went to Niagara for two years before he went on to Columbia. Niagara is about six miles from Niagara Falls; it is between Lewiston and Niagara Falls.

On page 3 "Congressional" should be omitted because while the Medal is called the Congressional Medal, the military award is the Medal of Honor; it is merely authorized by the Congress.

On page 4 I question the accuracy of the statement that Joyce Kilmer was killed at Donovan's side. I recall going into a dugout where Joyce Kilmer was killed. There was a rather deep shaft into the dugout and a German shell had gone directly down the shaft killing the people who were in the dugout, one of whom was Kilmer. His body, as I recall, was removed to a small cemetery at Groismare. I would recommend that Kilmer not be listed as having lost his life at Donovan's side.

The final two paragraphs on page 24 are indeed stirring; they have a warmth in the use of words that tingles the spine.

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Assistant to the Director